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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT DOSAAF Courses in Estonian SSR for 1953-54/ Entrance
Requirements / Tallinn officials

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1. "In October 53 the DOSAAF offices in Tallinn and other towns of the Estonian SSR arranged, and admitted students, to the following courses: for pilots; for aviation mechanics and technicians; for parachutists; and for glider pilots.

2. "Local DOSAAF aeroclubs are conducting all these courses. The instructors are reserve officers of the Air Force.

3. "Only those young people were called to attend the courses who fulfilled the following criteria:

Age between 17 and 21

Minimum education: seven years of elementary school.

Successful fulfillment of examination for GTO (Ready for Work and Defence)
norms

Good health

Member or candidate-member of the Komsomol

4. "The courses are to last one year. The students take the training in their free time, continuing at their regular jobs. The courses started 1 Nov 53. Tuition takes place two hours a week. During the winter period the students will take theoretical subjects and pass through ground training. In spring 1954 all students are scheduled to get six weeks of leave from their jobs in order to go through practical exercises with some Air Force promotion. The courses are all given in Russian. No attention is paid to whether the students understand. No theoretical tests are to be given in these courses, only practical.

5. "The purpose of the courses is to prepare youth of premilitary age for service in the Air Force. In other years even persons of postmilitary age have been summoned to such courses to brush up their knowledge in their speciality. The persons selected for these DOSAAF courses are notified by the local commissariats of the Soviet Ministry of War that they are to take such-and-such DOSAAF course. The fine for nonappearance is

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100 rubles; nobody disobeys. Any male citizen is liable to be drafted into a DOSAAF course, but hitherto none older than 35 have been known to be drafted. Women are seldom called: to medical training or, occasionally, to a parachutist course.

6. "The head of the DOSAAF office in Tallinn is Captain of the First Rank (Navy) N. I. Tlin. All the officials and instructors are Soviets, with the exception of three Estonians: A Sumend, the head of the riding club; Erich Jasela, an instructor there; and Alfred Haruoja, an instructor in the Nõmme raion of Tallinn."

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